

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please insert the following between the title and line 4 on page 1 of the specification.

**--FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a ceramic material having 0.2 to 5 wt.% of carbon particles having a maximum particle size of 5  $\mu\text{m}$ . The ceramic material has an HV10 hardness of not more than 15.5 GPa, and an E modulus at room temperature of less than 330 GPa. The present invention also relates to a process of preparing the ceramic material.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--**

Please insert the following between lines 4 and 6 on page 3 of the specification.

**--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--**

Please insert the following between lines 7 and 9 on page 3 of the specification.

--In accordance with the present invention there is provided, a ceramic material comprising,

0.2 to 5 wt.% of carbon particles having a maximum particle size of 5  $\mu\text{m}$ , wherein said ceramic material has,

an HV10 hardness of not more than 15.5 GPa, and

an E modulus at room temperature of less than 330 GPa.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Figure 1 is a schematic of a pendulum impact tester used to determine the impact strength of ceramic materials according to the present invention; and

Figure 2 is a representation of a light microscope photograph (at a magnification of 500X with contrast modification) of a ceramic material according to the present invention prepared as described in Example 1c.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--**